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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/607,780	06/27/2003	Christopher Pratley	60001.0241US01/MS# 300508	6460
7590 Leonard J. Hope, Esq. Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903			EXAMINER NGUYEN, LE V	
			ART UNIT 2174	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/18/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/607,780	PRATLEY ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Le Nguyen	2174	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 13-32 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 33-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17:2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/16/04 and 3/25/04</u> .                                    | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This communication is responsive to a communication filed on 3/16/07.
2. Claims 1-40 are pending in this application; and, claims 1, 15, 21, 24, 31 and 33 are independent claims. Claims 13-32 are drawn to the non-elected claims and are withdrawn from consideration. In the office action, claims 1, 13 and 14 were identified as linked to linking Groups II and IV; however, by virtue of dependency, Group I is also linked. Accordingly, claims 1, 13 and 14 will be examined with the elected invention Group I.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 6-12 and 33-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bjoernsen et al. ("Bjoernsen") in view of Zhu et al. ("Zhu").

As per claim 1, Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document comprising: displaying a document editing pane for editing the shared document (fig. 1, presentation view/document editing pane 20 displays a document that may be viewed and annotated by users in a collaboration session) and displaying a collaboration pane close to the

document editing pane, the collaboration pane operative to display the collaboration data (paragraph [0079]). Bjoernsen does not explicitly disclose a collaboration pane being adjacent to a document editing pane. Zhu teaches a collaboration pane being adjacent to a document editing pane (fig. 34; col. 126, lines 6-17, 30-36 and 49-57; document editing is performed in the content viewer/document editing pane 3420 located to the left side of window 3400, document editing pane 3420 is adjacent to panel/collaboration pane 3430; collaboration pane 3430 comprises a UI element which, when selected, causes the identities of the one or more collaborators to be displayed in the Attendees & Chat panel on the right of window 3400; a control bar separates the panels and the document editing pane 3420). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Zhu with the method of Bjoernsen so that often used commands are located closest to an associated area of focus.

As per claim 2, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document comprising: the identities of one or more collaborators wherein the collaboration pane comprises a user interface element which, when selected, causes the identities of the one or more collaborators to be displayed (Bjoernsen: paragraph [0079]; a launch pad with the identities of one or more collaborators can be launched in the tool area of a portal such as portal 12 by clicking a UI element such as a link in the header area).

As per claim 3, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document

wherein a network status is displayed in the collaboration pane for each of the one or more collaborators (Bjoernsen: paragraph [0071]).

As per claim 4, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document comprising: receiving the selection of the displayed identity for a one of the one or more collaborators (Bjoernsen: paragraphs [0070] and [0073]; the displayed identity comprises selectable hyperlinks and icons); in response to receiving the selection, displaying one or more actions that may be performed with respect to the selected identity (Bjoernsen: figs. 10-14; paragraphs [0070] and [0073]; collaboration services/actions that may be performed with respect to the selected identity include "Send Email", "Instant Message", "Chat", "Create Appointment", "Add Contact", "Remove Contact", etc.); receiving a selection of a one of the one or more actions (Bjoernsen: paragraphs [0070]-[0074]); and performing the selected action (Bjoernsen: paragraphs [0070] and [0073]; e.g. selection of a displayed identity may start a collaboration process with the contact such as by opening an empty e-mail addressed to the contact).

As per claim 6, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein a one of the one or more actions comprises placing a telephone call to a number associated with the selected identity (Bjoernsen: figs. 10-11; paragraph [0083]; in addition to instant messaging and chat services/actions, telephony actions are provided as well).

As per claim 7, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein a one of the one or more actions comprises sending an electronic mail message to an address associated with the selected entity (Bjoernsen: paragraph [0070]).

As per claim 8, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein a one of the one or more actions comprises initiating an instant messaging session with the selected identity (Bjoernsen: fig. 14; paragraph [0093]).

As per claim 9, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein a one of the one or more actions comprises editing information associated with the selected identity (Bjoernsen: paragraph [0087]).

As per claim 10, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein a one of the one or more actions comprises removing authorization to access a collaboration group related to the collaboration data for the selected identity (Bjoernsen: paragraph [0083]).

As per claim 11, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein a one of the one or more actions comprises adding the selected identity to a contacts list (Bjoernsen: fig. 11; paragraph [0083]).

As per claim 12, the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein a one of the one or more actions comprises viewing properties/information associated with the selected identity (Bjoernsen: fig. 12; paragraph [0084]; selection of a displayed identity causes the displayed identity to be displayed in recent contacts display area 260).

As per claim 33, Bjoernsen teaches method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document comprising: providing a first UI pane for editing the shared electronic document (fig. 1, presentation view/UI pane 20 displays a document that may be viewed and annotated by users in a collaboration session); providing a second UI pane close to the first UI for viewing and managing the collaboration data, the second UI pane comprising a first UI object which, when selected, will cause an identity for each of one or more collaborators on the shared electronic document to be displayed in the second user interface pane (paragraph [0079]; selecting a first UI object expands to display the list of contacts/collaborators). Bjoernsen does not explicitly disclose a second UI pane being adjacent to a first UI for viewing and managing the collaboration data. Zhu teaches a second UI pane being adjacent to a first UI for viewing and managing the collaboration data (fig. 34; col. 126, lines 6-17, 30-36 and 49-57; document editing is performed in the content viewer/first UI pane 3420 located to the left side of window 3400, first UI pane 3420 is adjacent to panel/second UI pane 3430; second UI pane 3430 comprises a UI element which, when selected, causes the identities of the one or more collaborators to

be displayed in the Attendees & Chat panel on the right of window 3400; a control bar separates the panels and the first UI pane 3420). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Zhu with the method of Bjoernsen so that often used commands are located closest to an associated area of focus.

As per claim 34, 39 and 40, although the modified Bjoernsen teaches method, a computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method and a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document, the method, apparatus and computer-readable medium comprising: one or more tasks, and a first UI object which, when selected, will cause an identity for each of one or more collaborators on the shared electronic document to be displayed in the second user interface pane (Bjoernsen: fig. 12; paragraph [0079]) wherein the second UI pane further comprises displaying objects such as the one or more tasks (Bjoernsen: paragraphs [0077] and [0079]; a launch pad with objects grouped and organized by project/task can be launched in the tool area of a portal such as portal 12 by clicking a UI element such as a link in the header area), the modified Bjoernsen does not explicitly disclose a second UI object which, when selected, causes objects to be displayed. Official Notice is taken that selecting an additional second UI object to display objects is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate selecting an additional second UI object to display objects with



the method of the modified Bjoernsen in order to provide users with additional information on a need basis only and prevent cluttering of the display space.

As per claim 35, the modified Bjoernsen teaches method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein the collaboration data comprises the identities of one or more documents, and wherein the second UI pane further comprises a UI object/third UI object which, when selected, will cause the identities of the one or more documents to be displayed in the second user interface pane (Bjoernsen: fig. 12, area 246).

As per claim 36, although the modified Bjoernsen teaches method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein the collaboration data comprises saved information such as one or more links or documents (Bjoernsen: paragraph [0049]), and wherein the second UI pane further comprises a UI object/fourth user interface object which, when selected, will cause one or more objects such as documents to be displayed (Bjoernsen: fig. 12) wherein users could drag an object/document to a launch pad/second UI pane (Bjoernsen: paragraph [0087]), the modified Bjoernsen does not explicitly disclose the one or more links to be displayed in the second UI pane along with other saved information. Official Notice is taken that displaying links in a second UI pane along with other saved information is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate displaying links in a second UI pane along with other saved information with the method of the modified Bjoernsen given that doing so allow users to reference primary information in a centralized location.

As per claim 37, the modified Bjoernsen teaches method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein the collaboration data comprises document information associated with the shared electronic document, and wherein the second UI pane further comprises a UI object/fifth UI object which, when selected, will cause the document information to be displayed in the second user interface pane (Bjoernsen: paragraphs [0059], [0076] and [0086]; provided are document information such as which copy of the document shared during the session and the type of the object).

As per claim 38, the modified Bjoernsen teaches method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document comprising periodically updating the collaboration data (Bjoernsen: paragraphs [0031], [0047], [0055] and [0062]).

5. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bjoernsen et al. ("Bjoernsen") in view of Zhu et al. ("Zhu") as applied to claim 4, and further in view of Screen Shots of Microsoft Outlook ("MS Outlook").

As per claim 5, although the modified Bjoernsen teaches a method for viewing and managing collaboration data from within the context of a shared electronic document wherein a one of the one or more actions comprises scheduling an appointment related to the selected identity (Bjoernsen: figs. 11, 13 and 14; paragraphs [0091] and [0093]), the modified Bjoernsen does not explicitly disclose scheduling an appointment on a calendar. MS Outlook teaches scheduling an appointment on a calendar for a currently selected identity (figs. 2-3; following the selection of "New

Appointment", "New Meeting Request" or "Plan a Meeting" command depicted within the "Actions" category drop down menu (located in the toolbar of fig. 2), a window, such as the "Attendee Availability" tab displayed in fig. 3, displays the selected, for example, Mr. Smith's calendar for scheduling an appointment). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of MS Outlook with the method of the modified Bjoernsen in order to further aide users in planning their time given that users relate to schedules in calendar form, especially when scheduling an appointment/meeting, booking hotel/flight reservations, completing electronic timecards and filling out dates for reimbursement/payment periods.

### ***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Filo et al. (US 6,215,498 B1) teach identities of one or more collaborators represented as avatars having the ability to present materials with additional functionality to assist in selecting and driving the presentations in fig. 7.

Ludwig et al. (US 7,185,054 B1) teach a share window/document editing pane 211 for annotating/editing documents adjacent to a collaboration pane 204 comprising identities of one or more collaborators as depicted in figs. 36-37.

Roseman (US 6,608,636 B1) teaches a table/document-editing pane for editing documents adjacent to a collaboration pane comprising recipients/identities of one or more collaborators as depicted in figs. 9 and 12-14.

Tang et al. (US 5,793,365) teach a system and method providing a computer user interface enabling access to distributed workgroup members.

Baumgartner et al. (US 5,195,086) teach multimedia document annotation and a collaboration pane comprising identities of one or more collaborators with telephony capabilities as depicted in figs. 16, 19, 20 and 23b-24b.

Bates et al. (US 7,076,546 B1) teach a document editing pane 328 for editing documents adjacent to a collaboration pane 330 comprising identities of one or more collaborators as depicted in fig. 11 wherein upon receiving the selection of the displayed identity for the one of the one or more collaborators, displaying one or more actions that may be performed with respect to the selected identity such as links, view info, save/add user, email user, chat with user, etc.

### ***Inquires***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lê Nguyen whose telephone number is **(571) 272-4068**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached at (571) 272-4063.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

lvn  
Patent Examiner  
May 31, 2007

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